

Dear Luca: I have just had a letter from Checcacci, at Pavia, asking if we could accommodate Elvio Fachinelli next year as a visiting fellow. He would come as a Rotary Club scholar.

Unfortunately, we are already committed to the maximum, and short of a chance to have you visit us yourselves (for which we would move the mountains), I do not see any possibility of having him in our laboratory. (We have already assigned, as visitors, two Danes [the Ørskovs], one Finn and one German (Heumann) and Newton Morton, as postdoctoral fellows, not two mention only three graduate students (one Australian, one Japanese, and one New Yorker-- what a polyglot group!). There are however three possibilities in regard to Fachinelli that I would like to ask your advice about; Prof. Checcacci asks for a prompt reply on my part, and therefore I ask the same of you:

1. Simple regrets.
2. Place Fachinelli with another group on campus, e.g., JB Wilson in Bacteriology Department, with whom I have close affiliation; he would then probably see us two or three times a week.
3. Suggest postponement until next year. (While it is now too late for '56-'57, I do not want to make definite commitments just yet for '57-'58, unless he has outstanding merit and interest. There is just a possibility, not yet nearly verified, that we might take a trip for a few months to Australia (Rubbo) next year, in which case we shall try to circumnavigate the globe and see you en route: it is not yet settled just when (or if) we should make this trip, but it is a factor in not wanting to make too rigid plans.

Whatever you know, can find out, or can advise about Fachinelli, I would be very grateful to hear.

We enjoyed your card from Sicily. Just when is Magni coming?

We have also done some poor experiments comparable to yours on F⁺/Hfr relationships, but not really very decisive. My own efforts have been mainly to recover the male parent from ~~xxxxxx~~ the recombinant clones, e.g., the Lac⁺ prototrophs from Hfr/F⁺ M-Lac⁺ x F⁻ Lac⁻. But I have not been able to recover the Hfr input in more than 20-30% of such clones (for technical reasons), so do not have much reliance on the very infrequent isolation of Hfr from similar experiments with F⁺ x F⁻. One problem is that some Hfr's very likely are still infective for F, though they apparently do not transmit the Hfr quality in this way. This infectivity may be due to instability of Hfr → F⁺, a point being examined. Among the new Hfr's there are a couple which are promising as not eliminating any of the tested markers, but they have not been sufficiently investigated.

So your paper in J. Genetics finally did come out! If you could spare another 3-4 copies, there is at least that much demand for it here, and my students would be grateful.

You asked about writing: it is a terrible chore. I hope you are not losing any sleep over the book, but I also hope you can tend to it once in a while. Other news here: Bradley (who was working on Streptomyces heterokaryons, and does not yet find recombination (à la Sermonetti) in his strains is leaving this fall for an

taking an appointment here in a new program at the Medical School as an Assistant Professor "of Anatomy and Human Genetics"; the anatomy, I hope is only a formality. This is a very encouraging development, and one I have been eager for for a long time. I hope it will proceed further, but there is naturally some conservatism in the adoption of ~~an~~ a new subject. While Morton's background is primarily mathematical (e.g. linkage in man) he is anxious to get an experimental program underway. So next year he will do laboratory work with us-- will probably take up the Lac allelism problem which Esther had built up, and which is amenable to much more detailed analysis with Hfr-crossing, diploids, etc. Actually, I have been somewhat surprised that the Lac₁ mutations of Y-87 and Y-53 continue to behave as alleles even under rather stringent screening, with which the non-allelism of W-112, Lac₁_b is readily shown. In the Gal series, we have yet to encounter a definite case of precise recurrence.

I have been thinking of you a great deal lately, and wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are well and happy. I have been thinking of you a great deal lately, and wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are well and happy. I have been thinking of you a great deal lately, and wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are well and happy.

Very truly yours,

Joshua Lederberg

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I have transmitted your instructions about reprints to the printer. Our paper should appear in the May issue, i.e. about mid-June. To avoid confusion, it probably would help if you would also communicate with them and arrange a formal purchase order from the Istituto prior to publication.

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